AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (New) A transportation decision support system for requesting, processing, and displaying transportation information and tracking information concerning surface transport of goods and personnel, the system comprising:

at least one server, the at least one server having a microprocessor and a memory storing computer program executable by the microprocessor, the computer program comprising computer instructions for presenting a web-based interface for soliciting a user request for transportation information, receiving the user request, gathering transportation information relating to the user request from transportation data sources communicably connected to the server, organizing the gathered transportation information into data layers, and displaying the data layers as a base map having data layers that can be selected and adjusted by a user to alter the displayed base map;

a tracking application residing on the at least one server, the tracking application comprising computer instructions for presenting a web-based interface for soliciting a user request for tracking information relating to an in-transit shipment, gathering vehicle location information and bill of lading information from at least one logistic data source communicably connected to the server, correlating the vehicle location information and bill of lading information, organizing the correlated information into data layers, and displaying the data layers as a base map having data layers that can be selected and adjusted by a user to alter the displayed base map; and

at least one client user interface in communication with the at least one server, the at least one client user interface being configured to display the base maps and

data layers and to permit a user to select and adjust the displayed base maps and data layers.

3. (New) The system of claim 2, wherein the transportation information is at least one of routes, maps, transportation infrastructure characteristics, real-time traffic, real-time weather, fixed images, video images, incidents, and warnings.

4. (New) The system of claim 3, wherein transportation data sources are at least one of cameras, speed sensors, radar, automated construction and accident reporting systems.

5. (New) The system of claim 4, wherein the incidents include traffic accidents, traffic congestion, road construction, road closures, weather events, and other traffic-related events that affect vehicle travel on roads.

6. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the system further includes means for automatically generating incidents in response to gathered transportation information.

7. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the system further includes means for permitting users to manually enter incidents into the system using the user interface.

8. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the tracking information is one of shipment inventory, shipment origination location, current shipment location, shipment destination, planned shipping route, altered shipping route, alternate shipment routes, portion of shipping route completed, portion of shipping route not yet completed, vehicle type, and estimated time of arrival.

9. (New) The system of claim 8, wherein the logistic data source is at least one of commercial shipping databases, commercial inventory databases, military shipping databases, and military inventory databases.

10. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the at least one client interface is in communication with the at least one server using wireless means.

11. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the system further comprises means for permitting a user to input transportation data into the user interface, and to and transmit the input transportation data to the at least one server.

12. (New) The system of claim 10, wherein the client interface further comprises means for permitting a user to input vehicle location information and bill of lading information into the user interface and to transmit the input data to the at least one server.

13. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the system further comprises means for predicting and reacting to incidents having a significant impact upon transportation and logistics for a particular geographic region.

14. (New) The system of claim 13, wherein the means for predicting and reacting to incidents includes a plume analysis function that generates a predictive model display showing the expected impact of a man-made or natural disaster on a geographic region and its transportation infrastructure based upon geographic and meteorological information relating to the particular geographic region.

15. (New) A method of providing transportation and tracking information to a user, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a transportation decision support system for requesting, processing, and displaying transportation information and tracking information concerning surface transport of goods and personnel, the system comprising:

at least one server, the at least one server having a microprocessor and a memory storing computer program executable by the microprocessor, the computer program comprising computer instructions for presenting a web-based interface for soliciting a user request for transportation information, receiving the user request, gathering transportation information relating to the user request from transportation data sources communicably connected to the server, organizing the gathered transportation information into data layers, and displaying the data layers as a base map having data layers that can be selected and adjusted by a user to alter the displayed base map;

a tracking application residing on the at least one server, the tracking application comprising computer instructions for presenting a web-based interface for soliciting a user request for tracking information relating to in-transit shipments, gathering vehicle location information and bill of lading information from at least one logistic data source communicably connected to the server, correlating the vehicle location

information and bill of lading information, organizing the correlated information into data layers, and displaying the data layers as a base map having data layers that can be selected and adjusted by a user to alter the displayed base map; and

at least one client user interface in communication with the at least one server, the at least one client user interface being configured to display the base maps and data layers and to permit a user to select and adjust the displayed base maps and data layers;

presenting a web-based interface for soliciting a user request for transportation information;

receiving the user request;

gathering transportation information relating to the user request from at least one transportation data source communicably connected to the server;

organizing the gathered transportation information into data layers, and

displaying the data layers as a base map having data layers that can be selected and adjusted by a user to alter the displayed base map.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of displaying further includes the step of transmitting the data layers to a remotely located user interface.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of transmitting is accomplished by wireless means.

18. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

presenting a web-based interface for soliciting a user request for tracking information relating to in-transit shipments;

gathering vehicle location information and bill of lading information from at least one logistic data source communicably connected to the server;

correlating the vehicle location information and bill of lading information;

organizing the correlated information into data layers, and

displaying the data layers as a base map having data layers that can be selected and adjusted by a user to alter the displayed base map.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the step of displaying further includes the step of transmitting the data layers to the remotely located user interface.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of transmitting is accomplished by wireless means.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprised of the steps of permitting a user to input transportation data and logistics data into the user interface, and transmitting the input transportation data to the at least one server.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the input transportation data and logistics data relates to at least one incident having a potentially significant impact upon transportation and logistics for a particular geographic region.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the system further includes means for predicting and reacting to input transportation data and input logistics data, the means including a plume analysis function that generates a predictive model display showing the expected impact of a man-made or natural disaster on a geographic region and its transportation infrastructure based upon the input transportation data and geographic and meteorological information relating to the particular geographic region.